

**BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS MEETING**  
**DR. RALPH W.E. JONES, JR. ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**  
**3001 EAST DRIVE**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2004**

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m., by the newly appointed Board President, Tracy Gosson.

**Present**

Tracy Gosson, President, Board of Recreation & Parks  
Dean Harrison, Commissioner, “  
Frederick Hopkins, Commissioner, “  
Martin Knott, Jr. Commissioner, “  
Wendell Peters Rawling, Commissioner, “  
Samuel Rodriquez, Commissioner, “  
Carolyn Wainwright, Commissioner, “  
Betty Woods, Secretary, “  
Kimberley Flowers, Director, Department of Recreation & Parks  
Connie Brown, Associate Director of Parks “  
Roslyn Johnson, Associate Director of Recreation “  
Mary Porter, Design Planner Supervisor, “  
Ericka Blount Danois, Public Information Officer “

**Guests**

Wilbur “Bill” Cunningham, Executive Director of Development, Living  
Classrooms Foundation  
Wayne Norbeck, Siger/Snead (Water Taxi Memorial Designers)  
Mr. And Mrs. Samuel Rosenberg, Friends of Leakin Park  
Bob Rhodes, Druid Hill Park Tennis Patron  
Ron Harris, Druid Hill Park Tennis Patron

**INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME** – The five new members on the Board of Recreation and Parks are President Tracy Gosson and Commissioners Hopkins, Knott, Rawlings and Rodriquez. Each was introduced to those present, and gave a brief summary of their background. A welcome was then extended to everyone in attendance.

**WATER TAXI MEMORIAL** – Living Classrooms Foundation, Inc. are the owners of the water taxi service which was involved in the recent tragedy where four people lost their lives when a sudden and fierce wind squall capsized their water taxi.

Mr. Cunningham, who is the Executive Director of Development for Living Classrooms Foundation, briefly outlined the activities of this non-profit and educational organization. He then presented a proposal concerning a Memorial that his organization would like to have erected in an area down from the Korean Memorial in Canton Waterfront Park. Mr. Cunningham then turned the presentation over to Mr. Norbeck, whose company designed the proposed Memorial.

Mr. Norbeck displayed renderings of the monument. It features a bronze navigation bell at the top of this tall structure, which will ring only when the wind is most fierce, as it was on the day of the tragedy. A bed of crocuses, which bloom in early March, will be planted near the base of the monument. The area involved will provide a place for a ceremony on the anniversary of the accident. Mr. Cunningham said they will maintain the site and raise funding for it. An Advisory Board is being assembled to oversee this project.

The Board was generally in favor of the project, and Commissioner Hopkins called it an “inspired design”. A motion to approve has to be held in abeyance, however until (1) the Departmental Policy Guidelines for Naming Park Property is completed, and (2) until Living Classrooms Foundation is able to get community groups’ approval documentation to present to the Board.

Messrs. Cunningham and Snead were thanked for coming, and everyone looks forward to their returning.

**NAMING OF PARK PROPERTY** – In an effort to consolidate a final departmental policy governing the naming of park property, the Board reviewed Montgomery County’s Park Naming Policy: Guidelines Recommendation, which was submitted by Commissioner Wainwright. A review was also made of the policy drawn up by former Commissioner Henry Hopkins, and it was Mrs. Flowers suggestion that some concepts of Montgomery County’s policy be integrated into it. Since much work remains to be done on this policy, President Gosson suggested that when further development is done on it, a draft can be sent to the

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Board for their perusal. Commissioner Wainwright and President Gosson said they would be glad to work with staff on this policy. Ideas, suggestions, etc. can be exchanged via email.

**STAFF PRESENTATIONS** - A listing of staff, their areas of responsibility, and a projected date for their individual appearances before the Board was distributed.

Commissioner Hopkins made a Motion to approve it, and Commissioner Knott seconded it. Approval was unanimous.

**BOARD MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS** - President Gosson and the Board expressed the wish to alternate times and locations for the monthly Park Board meetings. It was decided to alternate times between day and night meetings (8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.), and to select locations from Recreation Centers and various Parks.

**Commissioner Rawlings moved to approve this scheduling, Commissioner Rodriquez seconded it, and approval was unanimous.**

Commissioner Knott asked if maps could be provided to the Board so that they can see all locations. Mrs. Flowers said she would see that it was done, and also see that copies of the goals for each division would be sent as well.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT** – Mrs. Flowers reported that the Golf Tournament raised \$35,000 for our Parks program, with 100 participants in attendance. President Gosson was one of them!

**INFORMAL “GET TOGETHER”** – At a date to be decided, it was agreed that the Board and members of the administrative staff would meet and take a tour of the little known parks and selected Recreation Centers. Afterwards, they would all go to dinner. When a date convenient to all is finalized, everyone will be contacted accordingly.

**NEXT MEETING DATE & TIME** – The next meeting date will be Wednesday, July 28, at 8:30 a.m. The indoor pool at Callowhill has been suggested as a tentative location, but notices will be sent to confirm or change.

**ADJOURNMENT** – President Gosson called for adjournment at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Betty M. Woods, Secretary to the Board

